



Security Council

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LETTER DATED 15 MAY 1996 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF ITALY TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On behalf of the European Union, I have the honour to transmit herewith a declaration by the European Union on Liberia's boat people.

I should be grateful if you could have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Lorenzo FERRARIN
Deputy Permanent Representative
Chargé d'affaires a.i.



Annex

[Original: English and French]

DECLARATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION ON LIBERIA'S BOAT PEOPLE

The European Union expresses its deep concern at the grave humanitarian situation caused by the ongoing fighting in Monrovia and condemns the violence against the civilian population and the harassment of aid operations.

While recognizing the enormous efforts already made by neighbouring countries to assist the hundreds of thousands of existing Liberian refugees, The Council of the European Union deplores the fact that the thousands of people crammed on precarious conditions on ships in the area are still in search of a friendly port. It appeals on humanitarian grounds to the neighbouring countries to give at least temporary shelter to these victims of the fighting and affirms its own willingness to give humanitarian aid to cover their most urgent needs.

The Council calls on all the Liberian factions to stop the fighting immediately and put the peace process back on track in order to avoid further suffering.
